tional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957 (58 of 1957); and

(b) the grants to be made available to the States in lieu of the tax under the repealed Railway Passenger Fares Tax Act, 1957 (25 of 1957).

6. In making its recommendations on the various matters aforesaid, the Commission shall adopt the population figures of 1971 in all cases where population is regarded as a factor for determination of devolution of taxes and duties and grants-in-aid.

7. The Commission may examine the feasibility of the merger of additional duties of excise in lieu of Sales tax with basic duties of excise and evolve a suitable formula for allocating a part of the duties of excise in respect of the goods described in column (3) of the first Schedule to the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957 (58 of 1957) for contribution among the States, in lieu of Sales Tax.

8. The Commission may make an assessment of the debt position of the States as on 31st day of March, 1989 and suggest such corrective measures as deemed necessary keeping in view the financial requirements of the Centre. The corrective measures will be with particular reference to investments made in infrastructure projects and shall have linkage with improvements in financial and managerial efficiency.

9. The Commision may review the policy and arrangements in regard to the financing of relief expenditure by the States affected by natural calamities and suggest such modifications as it considers appropriate, in the existing arrangements, having regard, among other considerations, to the need for avoidance of wasteful expenditure. The Commission may examine, *inter-alia*, the feasibility of establishing a national insurance fund to which the State Governments may contribute a percentage of their revenue receipts.

10. On the matters aforesaid, the Commission shall make two reports, the first report covering a period of one year commencing on the 1st day of April, 1989, by the 20th June, 1988, and the second report covering a period of five years commencing on the 1st day of April, 1990, by the 30th June, 1989.

11. The Commission shall indicate the basis on which it has arrived at the findings and make available the State-wise estimates of receipts and expenditure.

Sd/-
(ZAIL SINGH)
PRESIDENT OF INDIA

June 17, 1987.

(No. F. 5(12)-FCD/86)

Sd/-
(K. S. Sastry)
Additional Secretary
(Budget)

Guidelines for the Grant of Newsprint Quota

*68. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any guidelines for the grant of newsprint quota to newspapers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) The guidelines for the grant of newsprint quota to newspapers are contained in the Newsprint Allocation Policy 1986-87 and 1987-88 announced on 13-11-86. A copy of the said policy was placed on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 7-11-1986.